

Budget Committee, insures that the operation and funding of this food aid trust will be revisited in the next farm bill.

Mr. Speaker, as the sponsor of this legislation, this Member would like to make clear that Section 212 of this legislation is a mechanism to enable USDA to fill the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust with funds or commodities that represent repayments to the Commodity Credit Corporation. The intent of this section is to enable USDA to use the \$20 million annual limit in funds or commodities to fill the trust and use it in times of emergencies. Therefore, 212(a) is an annual limitation only on inflows to the trust (capped at \$20 million annually) while outflows from the trust have no annual limitation and can equal the cumulative amount of the trust in any one year.

The Africa Seeds of Hope Act (H.R. 4283) was introduced by this Member on July 21, 1998, with the support of the distinguished gentleman from Indiana, the Ranking Democrat on the House International Relations Committee (Mr. HAMILTON). It is the successor bill to H.R. 3636, which was introduced on April 1, 1998. Because of some confusion regarding the two bills, this Member regrets that a few Members of Congress who wanted to be listed as a co-sponsor of H.R. 4283 were not added prior to the House passage of this legislation. Therefore, this Member would like to recognize that the distinguished gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. DELAHUNT) strongly supported this legislation and would have liked to have been added as a co-sponsor.

This legislation was overwhelmingly passed by the House Committee on International Relations on July 22, 1998, and it was discharged by the House Committee on Agriculture on September 11, 1998.

The Africa Seeds of Hope Act helps U.S. agriculture while promoting sustainable development in Sub-Saharan Africa so Africans can be less dependent on U.S. humanitarian assistance in the future. That is why H.R. 4283 has the support of both agricultural and humanitarian organizations and the United States Department of Agriculture. This win-win combination of grass roots supporters has been the foundation of America's long-term, good-will building, humanitarian food aid efforts since World War II.

Mr. Speaker, the predominant organization responsible for stimulating the creation and support for this legislation is the organization Bread for the World, a nondenominational Christian organization led by Rev. David Beckmann.

The Africa Seeds of Hope Act has been endorsed by over 220 agricultural and humanitarian organizations including: the Association for International Agriculture and Rural Development (AIARD), the Coalition for Food Aid, numerous land grant colleges, InterAction and major U.S. private voluntary agencies such as CARE, World Vision, ACIDI/VOCA, Catholic Relief Services, Technoserve, Africare, OXFAM, Islamic African Relief Agency USA, and the Mormon World Hunger Committee. In addition, this legislation has the support of most Christian denominations, Catholic religious communities, and mission groups. And, editorial pages from over twenty major newspapers across the country have endorsed H.R. 4283.

Mr. Speaker, a recent article in the Washington Post entitled "Africa's Agricultural Rebirth" quoted a Vice-Minister of Agriculture

from Ethiopia as saying "You cannot detach economic development from food self-sufficiency." That profound truth is the essence of the Africa Seeds of Hope Act.

There may be some people who believe or give the impression they believe that an admittedly very important trade liberalization effort alone can remedy all of Africa's woes. And, equally wrongheaded are some in the non-governmental organization community who initially expressed their opposition to trade liberalization, saying it would only hurt Africa's poor. The Africa Seeds of Hope Act bridges these disparate and unnecessarily conflicting ideological points of view with a reconciling view. That view is that liberalized trade plus targeted foreign assistance to Africa's small farmers, together, can best help Sub-Saharan Africa prosper.

Several months ago, with this Member's support, the House of Representatives passed the African Trade Growth and Opportunities Act. In doing so, the House took the very important step toward greater trade with a continent in desperate need of private-sector led economic growth. By focusing on sustainable agriculture, research, rural finance, and food security, the Africa Seeds of Hope Act is directly aimed at helping the 76 percent of the Sub-Saharan African people who are small farmers thus providing another important step towards increased African trade. Improving the efficiency of these farmers is crucial to ensuring that our overall trade strategy is successful. As a longtime supporter of aid to Africa through the creation of the Development Fund for Africa and other mechanisms, this Member will tell his colleagues that this Member believes H.R. 4283—in conjunction with any new Africa trade initiatives—will help coordinate and focus America's resources on both trade and aid in Africa.

If trade is to prosper in Sub-Saharan Africa, we need to better direct our scarce aid resources so that they stimulate private sector investment or help ease the suffering in those places either overlooked by the private sector or suffering from natural disasters. Our legislation attempts to refine our assistance programs for Sub-Saharan Africa and ensure that agriculture and rural development are not neglected. For example, this legislation requires the Agency for International Development (AID) to reverse its negative funding trend for international agricultural research and development. This will address the legitimate concern of U.S. land grant institutions that the Agency for International Development was increasingly ignoring sustainable agriculture in its development mandate. Also, the micro-enterprise program is recognized by this legislation and emphasized as an excellent tool to help remedy rural finance and investment shortcoming in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Moreover, H.R. 4283 attempts to better coordinate our international agricultural research programs with our domestic agricultural research so that farmers in Africa, as well as farmers in the United States, can benefit from AID funded agricultural research. The Africa Seeds of Hope Act refocuses our food assistance programs on long-term development assistance instead of being evaluated on the basis of short-term or immediate results that are often antithetical to their original purpose. This will enable non-governmental organizations and private voluntary organizations to design and implement food assistance pro-

grams that are cost-effective and ultimately succeed in graduating people and countries from those programs.

Finally, H.R. 4283 also establishes a Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust in honor of the late, distinguished and much admired Congressman from Missouri who was a leader on America's food aid efforts. This important mechanism allows the United States Department of Agriculture to purchase surplus agricultural commodities when prices are low, isolate them from the market, and distribute them at times of international disasters and famines. This cost-effective mechanism is especially beneficial to U.S. farmers because it takes U.S. commodities off of the market when commodity prices are at their lowest, such as now. The Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust is a worthy tribute to our late colleague, and this Member would like to thank the distinguished gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. EMERSON) for allowing us to further honor her late husband in this manner.

Finally, this Member would like to thank the distinguished gentlewoman from California (MAXINE WATERS), the distinguished gentlewoman from Georgia (CYNTHIA MCKINNEY) and the distinguished gentlewoman from North Carolina (EVA CLAYTON) for their special effort with the Congressional Black Caucus on behalf of the Africa Seeds of Hope Act. And this Member would like to thank the distinguished woman from Connecticut (NANCY JOHNSON) and the distinguished women from the District of Columbia (ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON) for their work with the Congressional Woman's Caucus on behalf of this legislation.

In conclusion Mr. Speaker, the Africa Seeds of Hope Act is legislation that benefits farmers in Africa as well as the United States.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, continuing my reservation of objection, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN).

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, this is a very significant measure. I rise in support of the measure, and I thank the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) for bringing it to the floor at this time.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I would be happy to further add my voice of support.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the initial request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### IRAN NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION PREVENTION ACT OF 1998

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on International Relations be discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4851) to withhold voluntary proportional assistance for programs and projects of the International Atomic Energy Agency relating to the development and completion of the Bushehr nuclear power plant in Iran, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, and I do not intend to object, but I want to thank the distinguished chairman of the Committee on International Relations for assisting us in bringing this bill to the floor today, and also the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. HAMILTON) and the leadership of both parties for agreeing to bring this important bill to the floor by unanimous consent.

The bill sends a strong message to Iran about its efforts to develop nuclear weapons, but, most importantly, the bill keeps U.S. taxpayer dollars from being spent on Iranian nuclear power reactors whose completion is supported by the IAEA and one day could help Iran develop nuclear technology to make a nuclear weapon to be aimed at the U.S. or its allies.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN).

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the gentleman from New Jersey, Mr. MENENDEZ, for his perseverance on this important legislation. This bill is similar to H.R. 3743, which was favorably reported by the Committee on International Relations, and then passed by the House on August 3, 1998, by a vote of 405-13.

Notwithstanding the overwhelming House vote, it is my understanding that the Senate opposed portions of H.R. 3743. This new bill modifies those portions of the bill and should now enjoy the support of the Senate.

This legislation amends current law to ensure that the U.S. does not provide funding for the completion of nuclear power reactors in Iran.

We all know that the Iranians have dedicated significant resources to completing at least 3 nuclear power plants by 2015 and are now working with Russian assistance to complete the Bushehr nuclear power plant. The U.S. has opposed the completion of the reactors at the Bushehr facility because the transfer of civilian nuclear technology and training could help to advance Iran's nuclear weapons program.

Between 1995 and 1999 it is expected that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) will have provided over \$1.5 million for the Iranian nuclear power program through its Technical Assistance and Cooperation Fund. The U.S. provides annual voluntary contributions to this fund totally \$16 million in 1996.

This bill does not halt our voluntary contribution to the IAEA. But it does require that none of our monies may be used to fund IAEA programs and projects in Iran unless the Secretary of State certifies that such projects are consistent with U.S. nuclear non-proliferation and safety goals and will not provide Iran with training or expertise relevant to the development of weapons.

This is exactly the right policy. The U.S. should not voluntarily provide funding which would help Iran complete nuclear power reactors that could assist them in developing their

nuclear weapons program which could pose a threat to the U.S. or its allies.

The bill also establishes two reporting requirements. One will provide the Congress with a comprehensive report on IAEA assistance to Iran. The second requirement directs the Secretary of State to review IAEA programs and ensure that they are consistent with U.S. nuclear non-proliferation and safety goals. Based on that review, the Secretary shall direct the U.S. representative to the IAEA to oppose establishing any programs that is not consistent with U.S. policy.

Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

H.R. 4851

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Iran Nuclear Proliferation Prevention Act of 1998".

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Iran remains the world's leading sponsor of international terrorism and is on the Department of State's list of countries that provide support for acts of international terrorism.

(2) Iran has repeatedly called for the destruction of Israel and Iran supports organizations, such as Hizballah, Hamas, and the Palestine Islamic Jihad, which are responsible for terrorist attacks against Israel.

(3) Iranian officials have stated their intent to complete at least three nuclear power plants by 2015 and are currently working to complete the Bushehr nuclear power plant located on the Persian Gulf coast.

(4) The United States has publicly opposed the completion of reactors at the Bushehr nuclear power plant because the transfer of civilian nuclear technology and training could help to advance Iran's nuclear weapons program.

(5) In an April 1997 hearing before the Subcommittee on Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, the former Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, James Woolsey, stated that through the operation of the nuclear power reactor at the Bushehr nuclear power plant, Iran will develop substantial expertise relevant to the development of nuclear weapons.

(6) Construction of the Bushehr nuclear power plant was halted following the 1979 revolution in Iran because the former West Germany refused to assist in the completion of the plant due to concerns that completion of the plant could provide Iran with expertise and technology which could advance Iran's nuclear weapons program.

(7) Iran is building up its offensive military capacity in other areas as evidenced by its recent testing of engines for ballistic missiles capable of carrying 2,200 pound warheads more than 800 miles, within range of strategic targets in Israel.

(8) In January 1995 Iran signed a \$780,000,000 contract with the Russian Federation for Atomic Energy (MINATOM) to complete a VVER-1000 pressurized-light water reactor at the Bushehr nuclear power plant.

(9) In March of 1998, Russia confirmed its intention to complete work on the two reactors at the Bushehr nuclear power plant and

agreed in principle to the construction of two more reactors at the Bushehr site.

(10) At least one reactor could be operational within a few years and it would subsequently provide Iran with substantial expertise to advance its nuclear weapons program.

(11) Iran ranks tenth among the 105 nations receiving assistance from the technical cooperation program of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

(12) Between 1995 and 1999, the International Atomic Energy Agency has provided and is expected to provide a total of \$1,550,000 through its Technical Assistance and Cooperation Fund for the Iranian nuclear power program, including reactors at the Bushehr nuclear power plant.

(13) The United States provides annual contributions to the International Atomic Energy Agency which total more than 25 percent of the annual assessed budget of the Agency and the United States also provides annual voluntary contributions to the Technical Assistance and Cooperation Fund of the Agency which total approximately 32 percent (\$16,000,000 in 1996) of the annual budget of the program.

(14) The United States should not voluntarily provide funding for the completion of nuclear power reactors which could provide Iran with substantial expertise to advance its nuclear weapons program and potentially pose a threat to the United States or its allies.

(15) Iran has no need for nuclear energy because of its immense oil and natural gas reserves which are equivalent to 9.3 percent of the world's reserves and Iran has 73,000,000,000 cubic feet of natural gas, an amount second only to the natural gas reserves of Russia.

#### SEC. 3. WITHHOLDING OF VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY FOR PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS IN IRAN.

Section 307 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2227) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(d) Notwithstanding subsection (c), the limitations of subsection (a) shall apply to programs and projects of the International Atomic Energy Agency in Iran, unless the Secretary of State makes a determination in writing to the Committee on International Relations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate pursuant to section 4(a)(1) of the Iran Nuclear Proliferation Prevention Act of 1998, that such programs and projects are consistent with United States nuclear non-proliferation and safety goals and will not provide Iran with training or expertise relevant to the development of nuclear weapons."

#### SEC. 4. ANNUAL REVIEW BY SECRETARY OF STATE OF PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY; UNITED STATES OPPOSITION TO PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS OF THE AGENCY IN IRAN.

##### (a) ANNUAL REVIEW.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall undertake a comprehensive annual review of all programs and projects of the International Atomic Energy Agency in the countries described in section 307(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2227(a)) and shall determine if such programs and projects are consistent with United States nuclear nonproliferation and safety goals.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act and on an annual basis thereafter for 5 years, the Secretary shall prepare and submit to the

Congress a report containing the results of the review under paragraph (1).

(b) **OPPOSITION TO CERTAIN PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS OF INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY.**—The Secretary of State shall direct the United States representative to the International Atomic Energy Agency to oppose programs of the Agency that are determined by the Secretary under the review conducted under subsection (a)(1) to be inconsistent with nuclear nonproliferation and safety goals of the United States.

#### SEC. 5. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and on an annual basis thereafter for 5 years, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the United States representative to the International Atomic Energy Agency, shall prepare and submit to the Congress a report that—

(1) describes the total amount of annual assistance to Iran from the International Atomic Energy Agency, a list of Iranian officials in leadership positions at the Agency, the expected timeframe for the completion of the nuclear power reactors at the Bushehr nuclear power plant, and a summary of the nuclear materials and technology transferred to Iran from the Agency in the preceding year which could assist in the development of Iran's nuclear weapons program; and

(2) contains a description of all programs and projects of the International Atomic Energy Agency in each country described in section 307(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2227(a)) and any inconsistencies between the technical cooperation and assistance programs and projects of the Agency and United States nuclear nonproliferation and safety goals in these countries.

(b) **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT.**—The report required to be submitted under subsection (a) shall be submitted in an unclassified form, to the extent appropriate, but may include a classified annex.

#### SEC. 7. SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.

It is the sense of the Congress that the United States Government should pursue internal reforms at the International Atomic Energy Agency that will ensure that all programs and projects funded under the Technical Cooperation and Assistance Fund of the Agency are compatible with United States nuclear nonproliferation policy and international nuclear nonproliferation norms.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### TRIBUTE TO LEN SWINEHART AND KERRY KNOTT

(Mr. GINGRICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I want to rise for just a moment to call the Members' attention to several members of the leadership staff who are leaving and to point out that when we look at the complexity of this institution, at how many different things have to work in order for us to be successful, that the very hard work of our staff members is a key part of how this institution works, whether it is our personal staff or committee staff or in the case of leadership, members of the leadership staff.

In my case, I am rising tonight to recognize Len Swinehart, who is celebrating today his 50th birthday and spent the last two weeks totally immersed in helping the appropriations process and finishing up the budget agreement with the President. Len has served here since 1976, when he came as a special assistant to Representative Harold Sawyer of Michigan. He went on from there to be administrative assistant to Vin Weber and then to become the deputy minority staff director on the House Committee on the Budget, and then became my floor assistant when I was the whip and finally floor assistant to me as Speaker. He has worked in particular on budget and appropriations matters.

Let me just say that Len has had a tremendous impact on this institution. I remember in particular working with him during the budget summit of 1990 as we tried to deal with issues that were very complex and where his background from the Committee on the Budget was invaluable. He has since played a major role both on budget and appropriations matters and in working with David Hobbs in trying to manage from the leadership's perspective what happens on the floor on a day-to-day basis. He has a tremendous record of service to the American people.

Because he came here a good while back, he is in a position to leave us and retire on his 50th birthday, and I just want him to know we are going to miss him and that we know that he is taking with him an institutional knowledge and awareness of this place that is truly quite remarkable.

□ 2015

I think it is particularly appropriate that he is having his 50th birthday today as we are passing a bill into which he poured so much time and effort and in which he worked with the appropriations staff in a very effective way.

So Len, we will miss you.

If I might take a moment of my time and yield to the distinguished majority leader.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Speaker for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, let me share the gentleman's sentiments about Len Swinehart. We have had the privilege of working with Len on so many very difficult, and sometimes it seems arcane, provisions of the rules. His knowledge, his experience, his understanding of the history of the institution and the precedence on which we could draw has always been invaluable to us in working out these complex problems, and we will truly miss Len.

In addition to that, Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge the imminent departure from our leadership staff of my chief of staff, Kerry Knott. I first became acquainted with Kerry Knott in 1983. In 1983 he was a young idealist that wanted to be involved in politics and wanted to do it for the best of all reasons: to improve the quality

of this Nation and to accede the government in service to the future of our children and our grandchildren. Through all of these years we have worked together, he has never changed.

I was laughing about that as I thought this morning, and I have said it many, many times, that there is always a danger when one comes to work in the government that one may come here as a young idealist and leave here as an old cynic. Kerry has defied the odds on both accounts. He came here as a young idealist and he leaves here as a young idealist. He will leave here I am sure satisfied in his own mind and heart, as I am, that each and every moment he spent in this town was a moment when service to his country was more important to him than any other consideration.

We see two fine young people who have done good service to this Nation leaving our ranks. We will miss them sorely, and if I may add on a very personal note, I will miss Kerry Knott not only as a working colleague, but as a personal friend. As he leaves me as a colleague, I hope to retain him as a friend.

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, let me also comment, because I had the opportunity to work with Kerry. He became in the years when we were in the minority our chief planner and he, working with Dan Meyer and Len Swinehart, developed the transition plan which was a multi-volume loose leaf document which enabled us to actually take over the House in 1995, and to move into the 100 days, 93 days, as he used to remind us, and pass the entire Contract With America, with one exception. Kerry did an outstanding job of planning. We are going to miss him. It may be a sad commentary in our years of experience that we regard Kerry Knott and Len Swinehart as young men, but I think we will work on that later on.

Anyway, I want to just say again, not just to these two fine members of the leadership staff, but sometimes when government courses are taught, people should realize that behind every Member there is a team, a staff that is working to serve their constituency; behind every issue there are staff members who specialize in that topic. For every committee there are professional staffs working all year-round; and for the leadership on either side, Democrat or Republican to function, there have to be leadership staff members who do an outstanding job.

Finally, sitting here in front of us and gathered all around us is the House staff which as an institution makes it possible for this very complex and remarkable institution to represent the will of 260 million Americans. So let me just say as we are closing out this particular Congress, I want to thank each and every member of every staff in both parties and the House institutional staff, for the dedication, the discipline, and the hours of professionalism they put in to serve their country,